GUIDE TO THE AD1 FORMOSA FILE

[The AD1 Formosa file contains information on the island of Formosa (Taiwan) and its non-aboriginal inhabitants. Formosa lies about 100 miles off the coast of China, between Japan and the Philippines. Chinese began settling the island in the beginning of the seventh century. Their name for the island was Taiwan. Around 1590 the Portuguese explored the area and named the island "The Beautiful" (Formosa). During the first half of the seventeenth century Formosa was ruled by the Dutch and Spanish. It was reclaimed by the Chinese late in the seventeenth century and they held the island until 1895 when it became Japanese territory after the first Sino-Japanese war. After World War II, Formosa was restored to China. Since then it has reassumed the Chinese name of Taiwan and become the seat of the Nationalist Chinese government of the Republic of China. In 1953, the Chinese population was 8,000,000. The indigenous inhabitants numbered 200,000.

There are forty sources in the file, numbered 4, 6-22, 24-29, 31, 34-37, 39-40, 42, 45-52, nine of which have been specifically marked for the AD4 Formosan Aborigines subfile. Eleven sources are translated from the German (sources 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, 18, 22, 25, 26, 27, 31, and 42); four sources are translated from the French (sources 11, 19, 28, and 29); and three sources are translated from the Chinese (46, 48, and 49). Many of the remaining sources contain considerable information on the aborigines as well. The most comprehensive information will be found in 45: Stanford University, which is a complete and lengthy monograph on the island as a whole. 4: Grajdanzev is a study of the Japanese colony based on official Japanese sources. 40: Kirk is a study of Japanese programs of assimilation.

Sources 10, 15, and 26 deal with the Japanese period in general. The physical characteristics of the island are discussed in sources 8, 9, 12, 13, 27, and 31. Early Chinese explorations are discussed in sources 28 and 29. 42: Schetelig is an account of an 1868 visit to Northern Formosa. 47: Balfour, et. al., is concerned with public health. 48: Chen is a study of population changes are related to social changes. 52: Barclay is a study of demography in relation to the Japanese colonial administration. The file was processed in 1951-56 and most of it is in the typed format and lacks the standardized OWC codes.]